

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

1 1. (currently amended) A method of making a sample tube,
2 comprising the steps of:

3 injection molding an intermediate tube in one piece with
4 a cylindrical wall and a conical intermediate bottom spaced between
5 ends thereof, integral with said wall and having an apex turned
6 toward an end of said intermediate tube thereby forming a well
7 adapted to receive a biological sample;

8 heating said end of said intermediate tube and pressing
9 edges of said end inwardly toward an axis of said intermediate tube
10 to thermally reform said tube and provide ~~at least a~~ an only
11 ~~partial~~ partially closed bottom end for the sample tube; and

12 rounding the bottom end of the sample tube outside an
13 injection mold in which said tube is formed by pressing a heated
14 stamp there against to cause said bottom end of said sample tube to
15 be shaped to a concavity of a concave recess of said stamp and to
16 be only partially closed by said stamp whereby said bottom end
17 remains open and is self-orienting upon insertion of the sample
18 tube into a stand to permit removal of the biological sample from
19 said well by a pipette.

Claims 2 - 4 (canceled)

1 5. (previously presented) The method defined in claim 1
2 wherein said stamp heats said intermediate tube to a temperature at
3 least equal to the flow temperature of a thermoplastic synthetic
4 resin constituting said intermediate tube.

Claims 6 - 9 (canceled)